

Thank you for helping maintain the street tree canopy coverage in Montgomery County by requesting a new tree planting.

Trees can act to reduce air pollution. They produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide, helping to fight global climate change. Trees slow run-off and help to prevent soil erosion. Trees also can improve the aesthetics and increase property values. A mature tree provides habitat for many animal species and provides cooling shade in the summer. On hot summer days, neighborhoods with good tree cover are noticeably cooler than those with little or no tree cover.

You can help us establish this new street tree by following some simple guidelines.

Watering: This is the single most important activity you can perform to help a young tree. Through the first year, a thorough watering every 7 days during the growing season may be needed. Deep, less frequent watering is better than frequent, shallow watering. We recommend watering at a trickle over several hours to encourage a healthy root system. If there has been significant rainfall (1 inch or more over a 24 hour period) you can skip a watering. During the next 3-4 years, watering during extended dry periods is also encouraged.

Mulching

The new tree was mulched with shredded hardwood mulch at the time of planting. This helps to retain soil moisture and helps insulate tree roots. Over time, this layer of mulch will decompose. Replacing the mulch and maintaining a layer 2-3 inches thick will help your tree. **DO NOT mulch against the trunk of the tree (see fig 2).** **DO NOT pile grass clippings around the tree.** These improper mulching practices may harm the tree.

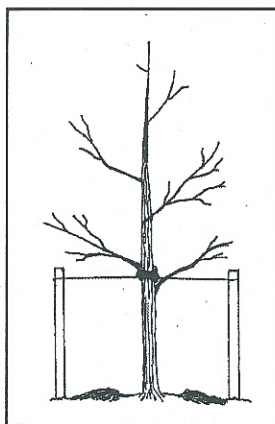


Fig.1: Mulch is only 2-3 inches thick and is not touching the trunk of the tree

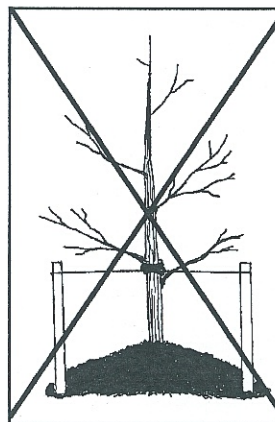


Fig.2: Mulch is too deep and touching the trunk of the tree

Supports: The tree may have been provided with supporting stakes at the time of planting. In order for the root system to develop properly, the support stakes should be removed after the first year. If left on too long, the tree may not develop enough roots to support itself. Also, if left on too long the support wires may girdle the trunk, killing the tree. The stakes will be removed after one year. If they are not, please contact **MC311**.

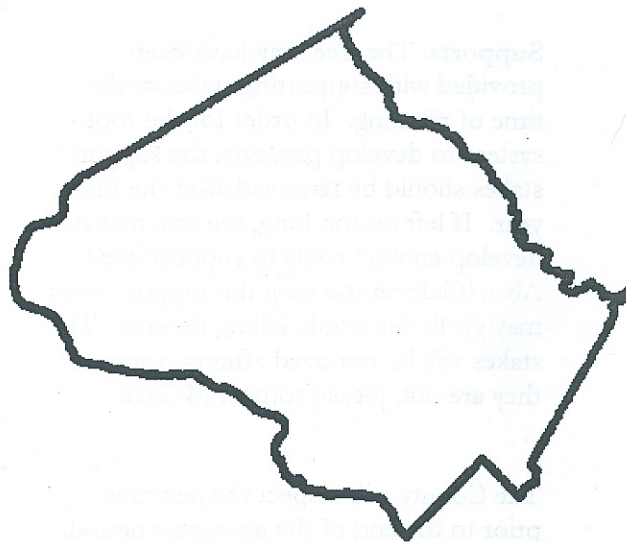
The County will inspect the new tree prior to the end of the guarantee period. If the new tree has died, it will be removed and replaced.

All tree maintenance activities are completed by the Tree Maintenance Section of the Division of Highway Services within the Department of Transportation.

Should you have any questions regarding the new tree or have maintenance needs on other existing street trees, the Dept. of Transportation can be reached through the **MC311 Call Center—240-777-0311**. Additional information can be found on our website:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Highway/Tree

By maintaining Montgomery County's street tree canopy, we are preserving a healthy and livable community. We hope you enjoy the new street tree for years to come!

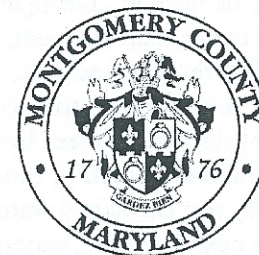
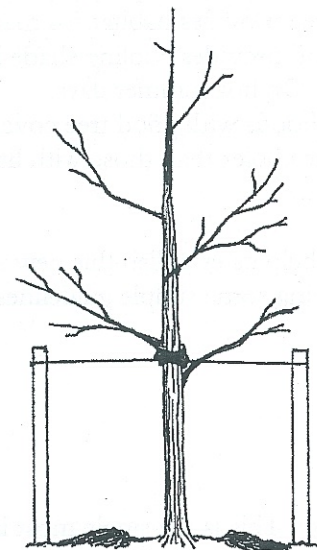


Tree Care Summary:

- Water thoroughly every 7 days
- Keep mulch away from trunk
- County will remove stakes and provide all tree care
- Any problems or questions call the **MC311 Call Center**



NEW STREET TREE CARE



Montgomery County
Department of Transportation
Highway Services
Tree Maintenance Section